

The invention claimed is:

1. An illuminating magnifying device comprising:  
a housing including a fastener adapted to attach the illuminating magnifying device to an article other than the illuminating magnifying device;  
a magnifier attached to the housing; and  
an illuminator attached to the housing adapted to illuminate an area adjacent to the illuminating magnifying device.
2. The illuminating magnifying device of claim 1, wherein the fastener comprises a clip.
3. The illuminating magnifying device of claim 1, wherein the article comprises headwear having a bill.
4. The illuminating magnifying device of claim 1, and further comprising a hinge which attaches the magnifier to the housing.
5. The illuminating magnifying device of claim 4, wherein the magnifier may be positioned in an up position and in a down position.
6. The illuminating magnifying device of claim 5, wherein the latitudinal axis of the magnifier when in the up position is substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the housing.
7. The illuminating magnifying device of claim 6, wherein the latitudinal axis of the magnifier when in the down position is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the housing.
8. The illuminating magnifying device of claim 1, wherein the illuminator comprises a battery powered light source.

9. A method for viewing an object adjacent to a person, comprising the steps of:
  - (a) providing an object adjacent to a person, the object desired to be viewed by the person;
  - (b) providing an illuminating magnifying device comprising a fastener for securing the illuminating magnifying device to an article near a person's eyes, a magnifier, and an illuminator that switches on when the magnifier is moved from a first position to a second position;
  - (c) switching on the illuminator by moving the magnifier to the second position; and
  - (d) viewing the object through the magnifier.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the illuminating magnifying device further comprises a housing and a hinge attached to the housing, the magnifier being attached to the hinge.
11. The method of claim 9, wherein the illuminator comprises a battery powered light source.
12. The method of claim 9, wherein the latitudinal axis of the magnifier when in the first position is substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the housing.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein the latitudinal axis of the magnifier when in the second position is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the housing.
14. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of securing the illuminating magnifying device to the article after the step of providing an illuminating magnifying device.
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the article is headwear having a bill.
16. An illuminating magnifying device comprising:
  - a housing shaped and sized to include an illuminator distally located along a longitudinal axis of the housing, where the housing includes a clip for attaching the illuminating magnifying device to an article other than the illuminating magnifying device;

a hinge attached to the bottom of the housing;

a magnifier attached to the hinge, the hingedly attached magnifier adapted to be in a first position and a second position;

wherein the latitudinal axis of the magnifier is substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the housing when in the first position and the latitudinal axis of the magnifier is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the housing when in the second position;

and

a light source attached to the housing and adapted to illuminate an area adjacent the illuminating magnifying device.